



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending May 19, 2019 Issued May 20, 2019 Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Iowa farmers worked hard to make planting progress with drier conditions during the early part of the week ending May 19, 2019, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service. However, heavy rain fell late in the week which limited farmers to 2.7 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Topsoil moisture levels rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 59 percent adequate and 41 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 41 percent surplus.

Iowa corn growers have 70 percent of the expected crop planted, 5 days behind last year and 9 days behind the 5-year average. This is the smallest percent of corn planted by May 19 since 1995 when just 53 percent of the expected crop had been planted. Even with limited days suitable for fieldwork, farmers in the northern districts and east central Iowa managed to plant at least a quarter of their expected corn crop this past week. Northeast Iowa planted the highest percentage of corn as they planted 43 percent of their expected crop. Twenty percent of the crop has emerged, over a week behind last year and average. Twenty-seven percent of the expected soybean crop has been planted, 8 days behind last year and 9 days behind average. Three percent of the crop has emerged, 6 days behind average. Nearly all the expected oat crop has been planted with 76 percent emerged, 2 days behind last year and 1 week behind average.

There were scattered reports for the first cutting of **alfalfa hay**. Hay condition rated 62 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** improved slightly to 63 percent good to excellent. Warmer temperatures early in the week helped pastures grow, allowing cattle farmers to move more cattle out to graze.



Corn Planted - Iowa

Crop Condition as of May 19, 2019

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Hay, all Oats Pasture and	1 0	6 2	31 32	51 53	11 13	
range	1	6	30	49	14	

Crop Progress as of May 19, 2019

Crop Progress as or way	19, 20	19											
	Districts								State				
Item	NW	NC	NE	wc	С	EC	sw	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)										
Corn planted	60	83	67	77	77	60	72	54	61	70	48	83	89
Corn emerged	13	15	6	25	26	16	36	28	29	20	5	49	53
Oats planted	97	99	99	98	99	97	97	91	92	97	91	96	98
Oats emerged	71	82	82	83	87	70	81	63	61	76	55	82	89
Soybeans planted	15	28	29	32	31	23	36	29	21	27	13	54	55

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 19, 2019

	Districts										State		
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	
	(days)	(days)											
Days suitable	2.8	3.7	3.8	2.2	2.4	3.0	3.3	1.8	0.8	2.7	1.9	3.9	
	(percent)	(percent)											
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	1	5	
Adequate	58	79	60	70	56	56	54	33	40	59	67	78	
Surplus	42	21	40	30	44	44	43	67	58	41	32	15	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Short	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	7	1	1	10	
Adequate	52	68	59	76	57	53	52	44	48	58	66	74	
Surplus	48	32	41	23	43	47	45	53	45	41	33	12	

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist **Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**

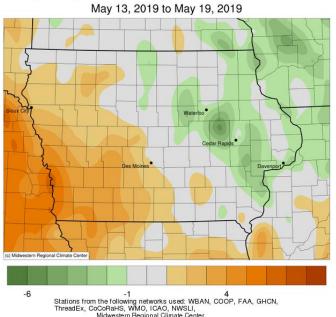
Wetter than average conditions continued across much of Iowa with the state's western extent experiencing drier than normal conditions. Temperatures across the western half of Iowa were slightly warmer than average while the rest of the state was near or slightly below normal. Cooler conditions in eastern Iowa were partially attributed to increased cloud cover and rainfall

Rain showers associated with a weak low pressure system dissipated late in the day on Sunday (12th). Daytime highs were in the low to mid 50s; highs in southeastern Iowa were generally 15 to 20 degrees cooler than average. Burlington (Des Moines County) observed a daytime high of 47 degrees, 25 degrees below average. Rainfall was generally confined to southern Iowa where totals reported at 7:00 am on Monday (13th) ranged from 0.05 inch in Keokuk (Lee County) to 0.38 inch in Bedford (Taylor County). Daytime temperatures were boosted into the mid 60s ahead of an expected warming trend across Iowa. A fast moving complex of showers and thunderstorms moved from northwestern Iowa though southeastern Iowa on Tuesday (14th) leaving behind above average totals in central and southeastern Iowa, ranging from 0.20 to 0.40 inch above climatological expectation. Boone (Boone County) reported 0.63 inch of rain, 0.50 inch above normal. Wednesday (15th) saw morning fog burn off into sunny and warm conditions. Highs reached into the upper 70s and low 80s in western Iowa and remained unseasonably warm overnight. Stations in Cass, Harrison, and Montgomery counties observed 82 degrees, nine degrees above average.

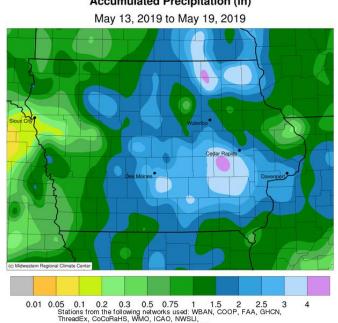
Thursday (16th) began a multi-day stretch of thunderstorms and locally heavy rainfall across Iowa. A warm and unstable atmosphere over central Iowa supported severe storms Thursday night. There were multiple reports of large hail, the largest of which was 1.75 inches in Tama County. Severe straight-line winds were also reported from Dallas to Clinton counties. Overall, this was the most widespread severe weather event so far in 2019, with 11 counties affected. Widespread thunderstorm activity occurred Friday (17th) and Saturday (18th) and was associated with a strong low pressure system. Northern and eastern Iowa received multiple waves of showers and thunderstorms with New Hampton (Chickasaw County) observing the highest 24-hour total of 4.25 inches on the 18th, 4.09 inches above average. Three-day rain totals reported at 7:00 am on Sunday (19th) were above one inch at 48 stations. Temperatures remained mild over the weekend with highs 8 to 12 degrees above average in southern Iowa.

Weekly rainfall totals ranged from 0.11 inch in Mapleton (Monona County) to 4.95 inches in Elma (Howard County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.77 inches, 0.72 inch above average. Temperatures also averaged 61.9 degrees, slightly above the climatological normal of 61.5 degrees. The week's high temperature of 94 degrees was observed at Clarinda (Page County) on the 16th, 21 degrees warmer than average. Chariton (Lucas County) reported the week's low temperature of 30 degrees on the 13th, 16 degrees below average.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals



Accumulated Precipitation (in)



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Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/